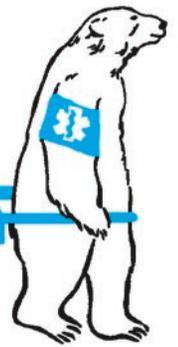




# RESPONSE

## EMS - ALASKA

Neighbor Helping Neighbor: An Alaskan Tradition



Volume 28, Number 1

Fall 2006

# 31st Annual EMS Symposium

This issue of RESPONSE: EMS ALASKA includes the schedule for the 2006 State EMS Symposium. This year's event will be held at the Egan Center, in Anchorage, on November 8 – 11. The hosting hotel is the Hilton Anchorage Hotel where the special conference rate is \$82 per night (single or double). The toll free reservation line for the Hilton Anchorage Hotel is 800-245-2527 (in-state), 800-445-8667 (worldwide). The direct number is (907) 265-7152. In addition, reservations can be made online at [www.anchorage.hilton.com](http://www.anchorage.hilton.com). Be sure to use the code "EMS" or Alaska Emergency Medical Services 2006 to receive this special symposium rate.

The 31st Annual EMS Symposium will be another exciting and educational conference. This year's schedule includes some new and exciting presenters. We also welcome back several speakers who continue to captivate the Alaskan audience.

### Pre-Symposium Workshops

Wednesday and Thursday, November 8 and 9 are the pre-symposium workshops. Wednesday features a one-day session on "Rescue Captain Forum." This workshop is \$110. On Wednesday and Thursday there will be two, two-day workshops. This year we will have a course that is being re-introduced to Alaska. The Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS) course is from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and has not been taught in Alaska in a number of years. Another two-day course is new to Alaska, "Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training" (ASIST). This course is designed for individuals

who have contact with youth and offers the tools to recognize and obtain help for youth who may be suicidal. Both courses will be limited to the first 25 participants; so don't delay.

Thursday will feature half-day workshops in addition to day two of the two-day courses. They include: "Advanced Airway Lab" (AM and PM sessions), "Parasitology 101 for EMT" \*\* (AM and PM sessions), "Point of Intervention" and "Being an Effective Teacher" in the AM and "Integration of Capnography" and "Bioterrorism Curriculum" in the PM. \*\*The "Parasitology 101" will be held at the Alaska Public Health Lab at 4500 Boniface Pkwy (Tudor and Boniface). The sessions will run from 8 AM – 12 Noon; and 1 PM – 5 PM. Registration is limited and needs to be completed by October 13, 2006.

For more information on some of the sessions, see page 6. The full schedule of events starts on page 7.

### *in this issue:*

31st Annual Symposium  
Pages 1-9

Symposium Schedule  
Pages 7-9

Symposium Special Events  
Page 5

2006 EMS Awards  
Page 4

New Leadership  
and Staff Changes  
Page 10

Pandemic Flu  
and Avian Flu  
Page 10

Kids Don't Float  
Wins Award  
Page 11

### *EMS Calendar:*

31st EMS Symposium  
November 8 – 11

EMS Awards Banquet  
November 11

Interior Region Symposium  
April 11 – 14, 2007

S.E. Region Symposium  
March 14 – 17, 2007



An Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Publication

Frank H. Murkowski, Governor  
Karleen K. Jackson, Commissioner





## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

### General Session

Dr. Ronald Pirrallo from Milwaukee, WI is this year's General Session speaker and will present The South Milwaukee Diet: A Lean Approach to Resuscitation, Back to Basics, on Friday, November 10th at 10:30 AM. Dr. Pirrallo is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Milwaukee County EMS Medical Director. He provides patient care at the Froedtert Hospital Emergency Department, the region's Level I Trauma Center and the state's only Emergency Medicine Residency Training program. He joined the faculty at the Medical College of Wisconsin, Department of Emergency Medicine, in 1992 after completing a two-year EMS Fellowship at William Beaumont and the University of Michigan Hospitals including a Master of Health Services Administration degree from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Pirrallo's research focuses on out-of-hospital emergency care and ways of improving EMS system effectiveness.



### It's not too early to begin planning for the 2007 Alaska EMS Symposium!

Topics and speakers will be largely determined by Symposium evaluations and letters. Let us know your ideas!

Check the Southern Region EMS Council, Inc., and the Section of Injury Prevention and EMS web sites for the dates.

### Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS)

The late 70's was a time of a lot of activity in the emergency care of children across the nation. Drs. Martha Bushore-Fallis and Jerry Foster, at the Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, established the Section on Emergency Medicine within the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) in an effort to establish dialogue, share concerns, and set some goals among physicians providing emergency care to children.

Through this group evolved a course for physicians in the field of pediatric emergency medicine. In 1983, pediatric life support education separated into two groups. One group became the forerunner of the American Heart Association Subcommittee on Pediatric Resuscitation and developed the Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course. The other group established themselves as the critical condition recognition and stabilization group and the course developed was the forerunner for today's Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS) course. Working with the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), this group published the first course manual in 1989. Today the course is in its fourth edition.

APLS is an exciting curriculum designed to present the information physicians need to assess and care for critically ill and injured children during the first few hours in the emergency department or office-based setting. The course is 2-days in length and is a combination of lecture, skill stations, and small group discussions. The course will be presented at the EMS Symposium on Wednesday and Thursday, November 8th and 9th from 8 AM to 5 PM at the Egan Convention Center. Space is limited, so sign up early.

## RESPONSE: EMS Alaska

Published by the Section of Injury Prevention & Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Division of Public Health, Department of Health & Social Services.

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Governor

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Commissioner, DHSS

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## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

### Participate in the 29th Annual All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition

The King Career Center Emergency Services Technology Program and the Alaska Medical Support Team (AMST) are organizing the All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition. This annual event will be staged on Saturday, November 11th, in the Egan Center.

The organizers of the skills competition will distribute to all teams who pre-register a list of specific criteria by which the teams will be judged, as well as the criteria used for tie breaking. The criteria also will be sent to those organizations requesting them in writing.

Trophies and plaques for the top five teams will be presented at a ceremony during the awards banquet on Saturday, November 11th, at the Egan Center. In addition, prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. Entry forms are contained in this issue, if you have any further questions, please contact Southern Region EMS Council at (907) 562-6449.

#### All-Alaska EMT Skills Competition Rules

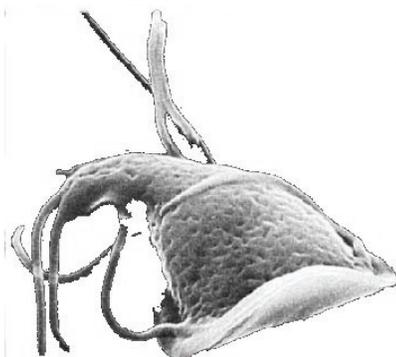
- Three practical problems will be selected from the

EMT-I skills levels.

- Only one team (two members) from each organization may enroll.
- Each team is required to bring its own trauma kit, equipped as the members see fit. Any specialized equipment required for the practical will be furnished by AMST. If it is not possible to bring a kit, please let AMST know in advance and one will be supplied. No books will be allowed.
- There is no entry fee.
- Each team must send completed entry blanks before November 4, 2006, so adequate plans may be made for space. Late entries may be accepted on a space available basis.
- Each team is composed of two competitors and one judge. That judge will proctor a team other than the one from his or her service area. The judge may come from an area outside the team's service area. The judge must be certified to at least the EMT-I level.

### Introduction To Medical Parasitology

The State of Alaska Public Health Laboratories will be presenting a medical parasitology workshop geared to first responders and other medical personnel who may encounter these "critters" in the field. To get the real scoop on the real poop, the ½-day workshop will be a combination of didactic and hands-on experiences. Do you have what it takes to come face-to-face with a 3-meter *Taenia saginata*, a 10-micron *Giardia lamblia*, or get nit-picky with



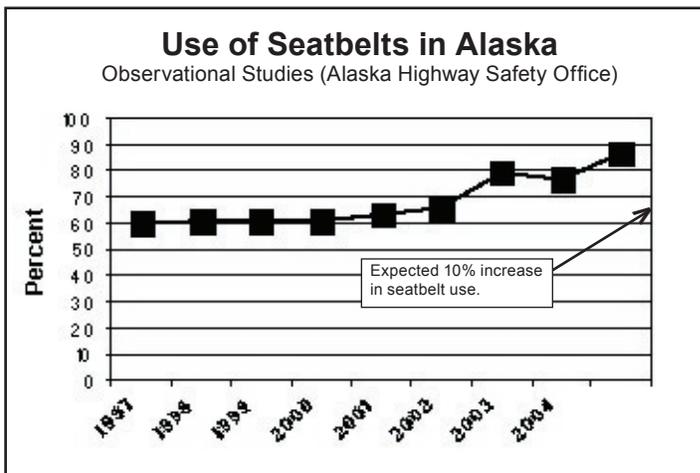
*Pediculus capitis*? This workshop will focus on parasites common to Alaska as well as highlight some unusual parasites found elsewhere.

### Use of Seatbelts in Alaska

On January 31, 2006 Governor Frank H. Murkowski signed into law SB 87, a bill that makes driving without buckling up a primary offense.

The governor emphasized that, based on the experience of other states with a primary seat belt law, SB 87 will save lives – an average of six lives per year.

It is also estimated the new law will prevent about 70 serious injuries per year, and reduce the cost of publicly funded medical care by about \$12 million annually.





## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

# EMS Symposium

## Continuing Education Credits

Continuing education credits for EMTs and Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics, nurses, physicians and physician assistants are being arranged for most of the programs.

Physician and Physician Assistants continuing education credit will be through the American Association of Family Physicians as Prescribed Credit. This credit is equivalent to Category I credit from the American Medical Association.

Learning Objectives for all presentations will be available for viewing on Southern Region EMS Council, Inc.'s web site after September 30, 2006, at <http://www.sremsc.org>

## Upcoming Regional Symposia

### Southeast Region EMS Symposium

March 14 – 17, 2007

(March 14 and 15 are pre-symposium classes)

Sitka, AK

This year's theme is Extremes of Age

For more information contact Southeast Region EMS Council at:

(907) 747-8005; [www.serems.org](http://www.serems.org)

### Interior Region EMS Symposium

April 11 – 14, 2007

(April 11 and 12 are pre-symposium classes)

Fairbanks, AK

For more information contact Interior Region EMS Council at:

(907) 456-3978; [www.iremcs.org](http://www.iremcs.org)

## Attention

## EMS Rescue Captains!!

This year the State EMS Symposium will have a special pre-symposium day (Wednesday, November 8th) set aside for Rescue Captains and EMS Managers to discuss their particular issues. A questionnaire is being sent to all certified services, requesting ideas for topics. Recruitment and retention will be an area of discussion, particularly since this is also a national issue. The goal of the EMS Rescue Captain Forum is to give EMS leaders an opportunity to share problems and successes and network with other EMS managers from around Alaska.

The EMS Rescue Captain Forum will be held Wednesday November 8th, 8 AM – 5 PM. The cost will be \$110. Please send your comments and suggestions to Mike Motti, EMS Coordinator, SEARHC 222 Tongass Dr., Sitka, AK 99835 or email: [mikem@searhc.org](mailto:mikem@searhc.org).



## 2006 EMS Awards

The Alaska Council on EMS is accepting nominations for the 2006 Governor's Annual EMS Awards. The deadline for submissions is **Friday, September 1, 2006**. There are two nomination forms: an Outstanding Ambulance Award form and a form for all other Awards, including Special Commendations. Modifiable PDF forms are available on the State EMS Office website at <http://www.chems.alaska.gov/EMS/Awards.htm> or can be obtained by contacting Shelley K. Owens at (907) 465-3028 or at [shelley\\_owens@health.state.ak.us](mailto:shelley_owens@health.state.ak.us).

Mail or fax the completed forms to:

ACEMS Awards  
Section of Injury Prevention & EMS  
P.O. Box 110616  
Juneau, AK 99811-0616  
Fax: (907) 465-4101

If you fax a nomination, please check to make sure it was received by contacting Shelley K. Owens.



## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

### Hotel Reservations

The hosting hotel is the Anchorage Hilton Hotel where the conference rate is \$82 per night. The toll free reservation line for the hotel is 800-245-2527 (in-state), 800-445-8667 (worldwide). Please be sure to use the code "EMS" or Alaska Emergency Medical Services 2006 to receive this special symposium rate. Contact the Anchorage Hilton Hotel as soon as possible and before October 10, 2006.

We remind you of the importance of staying at our host hotel, the Anchorage Hilton Hotel, which is offering us this great room rate. While we realize that some of you may want to stay at other locations for a variety of reasons, your support is very important to the Symposium overall. Staying at the official host hotel assists in many ways, including offering significantly reduced costs for our speaker rooms and other benefits based on the number of hotel rooms used. This in turn, allows us to bring you the highest quality speakers and helps us to keep the Symposium registration fees as low as possible.

JC Penney Garage (6th and E Street)  
Open: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

6th Avenue Parking Garage (enter on H Street)  
Open 24 hours

5th Avenue Parking Garage (5th and B Street)  
Open 24 hours

Post Office Mall and Lower Bowl Lots (3rd Ave.,  
between E and C Street)

Dimond Parking Lots

For more information on municipal parking, go to <http://www.anchorageparking.com>

### Airfare

Flights can now be booked online by accessing the web site at [www.alaskair.com](http://www.alaskair.com). Input the **eCert Code ECCMR8854** in the eCert Code box when filling out the Quick Flight Search box. The discount will be applied to any flights that meet the criteria of the meeting fare.

After inputting the eCert Code, clicking on the question mark (?) will pull up a screen giving general advisories regarding the use of eCerts. Clicking on VIEW will bring up a detailed description of what is allowed for this particular meeting code.

### Parking

The Egan Center is located on 5th Avenue between E and F Streets and there are many convenient options for parking nearby. There are approximately **800 free parking spaces** within a five-block radius of the Egan Center. Monday through Friday, between 9 AM and 6 PM, you may park for two hours on a block. On Saturday, Sunday, evenings, and municipal holidays, free parking is permitted at all metered spaces. Parking lots and garages nearby include:

### Special Events

- There will be the Annual EMS Instructors Luncheon sponsored by Alaska Regional Hospital on Friday, November 10th from 12:15 – 1:30 PM. It will be located at Alaska Regional Hospital, 2801 DeBarr Road. You can sign up to attend on the symposium pre-registration form. Space is limited to the first 50.
- The 29th Annual EMS Skills Competition will be held on Saturday afternoon, November 11th. Alan Loken and the Alaska Medical Support Team will provide the scenarios and organize the competition. (See page \_ for details).
- The 29th Annual Governor's EMS Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday evening at the Egan Convention Center. Annual Governor's EMS Awards will be presented at the banquet. (See page \_ for details on the awards)
- Safe Kids Luncheon, Friday, November 20th from 12:15 – 1:30 PM. The luncheon is sponsored by Providence Alaska Medical Center and is held each year at the 'Top of the World' restaurant in the Hilton Hotel. You can sign up to attend on the Symposium registration form. Space is limited to the first 50.

The cost for the banquet is \$35 which is generously subsidized by several vendors. The menu will be Classic Caesar Salad; choice of entrée: Grilled Alaskan Salmon or Grilled Chicken with Tortellini; and choice of dessert: Peach Melba or chocolate walnut cake. Please indicate any special dietary needs when pre-registering.



## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

### Injury Prevention Topics Range from the Young to the Old

This year's Injury Prevention topics will cover a broad range of injuries:

**Baby it's Cold Outside:** As the cold weather season will be upon us sooner than later exposure to cold can cause injury or serious illness such as frostbite or hypothermia. The air temperature does not have to be below freezing for someone to experience cold emergencies such as hypothermia and frostbite and the likelihood of injury or illness depends on factors such as physical activity, clothing, wind, humidity, working and living conditions, and a person's age and state of health.

Dr. James O' Malley and his brother Thomas, an elementary school teacher, will present their curriculum on Hypothermia and Frostbite that they have developed for 5th through High School students.

**I Only Feel When I Hurt: Understanding Self-Harm: Training on Self-Mutilation:** Why Do We Need Training on Self-Mutilation?

- The behavior is all too common, with an estimated one out of 200 teen girls regularly practicing self-mutilative behavior
- Caregivers need help sorting out self-mutilating behavior from suicidal behavior.
- It is difficult for many of us to understand why anyone would intentionally hurt him/herself. Many caregivers speak to being "at a loss" with how to respond when a young person they know is engaged in self-mutilating behavior and/or expressing suicidal ideas.

This presentation will assist one to understand and respond to youth who harm themselves and to help differentiate self-

mutilation from suicidal behavior and identify practical strategies for intervention.

**Get Into the Game:** EMS providers are often asked to attend sporting events to aid in the assessment and treatment of sport-related injuries. Coaches and their assistants are involved in the every day conditioning and training of athletes. What role can EMS providers and coaching staff play in preventing injuries to athletes? What processes are involved to assess when a player can return to the game, especially when an injury to the head is sustained? This presentation is designed for those who are the first responders during sporting events to assist them in preventing injury and reducing the effects of a sports-related injury.

**Driving with Miss Daisy:** Statistics indicate that most older adults are safe drivers, with high safety belt use and few citations for speeding, reckless driving or alcohol-related charges. However, medical conditions, medication usage and reduced physical function can increase the risk of accidents and injury among older adults, especially after age 75, when the risk of being involved in a collision increases for every mile they drive.

The rate of risk for adults over age 75 is nearly equal to the risk of younger drivers age 16 to 24.

These statistics help you see the risk for older drivers. However, the decision to limit driving depends on each individual. Each family must ask, "Is my older relative safe?" This presentation will focus on risks factors of older drivers, assessment tools to determine driving risks, and to help in developing a "Driver Retirement Plan" as the risks begin to outweigh the benefits of driving.

## ASIST – Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training

### Pre-symposium Workshop: Wednesday and Thursday November 8 and 9

**ASIST** was developed by Living Works Education in Canada and is the most widely used suicide intervention method in the world.

Just as "CPR" skills make physical first aid possible, training in suicide intervention develops the skills used in suicide first aid.

The training will be a 2 day interactive course that helps participants recognize risk and learn how to intervene to prevent the immediate risk of suicide.

**The Challenge:** Too many Alaskans kill themselves each year and some of these suicides could have been prevented if there were someone there to ASIST.

**The Opportunity:** Creating a life assisting community begins with you and ASIST training can provide you with the tools to help prevent the immediate risk of suicide and to respond to those who have given us the signs of risk.

**The Workshop:** ASIST provides practical training and anyone

seeking to prevent the immediate risk of suicide.

Emphasis is on small-group discussions and practice focusing on 4 areas of training:

By attending this training you will learn how to:

- Recognize invitations for help
- Reach out and offer support
- Review the risk of suicide
- Apply a suicide intervention model
- Link people with community resources

**The Outcome:** The emphasis of the ASIST training is on suicide first aid, on helping a person at risk stay safe, and seek further help.

This training is for all caregivers (any person in a position of trust). This includes professionals, paraprofessionals and lay people. It is suitable for mental health professionals, nurses, physicians, teachers, counselors, youth workers, police and correctional staff, school support staff, clergy, and community volunteers.



## 31st Annual EMS Symposium

### Symposium Schedule

#### PRE-SYMPOSIUM WORKSHOPS

##### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

**8:00 AM – 5:00 PM** One Day Only  
(Management Track)

**EMS Rescue  
Captains Forum**  
Mike Motti  
Sitka, AK  
Cost – \$110

##### WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8 & 9

**8:00 AM – 5:00 PM**  
(Clinical/ALS Track)

**Advanced Pediatric Life  
Support (APLS) –  
Provider Course**  
BJ Coopes, MD  
Anchorage, AK  
Cost – \$210 (space is limited)

(Injury Prevention Track)

**Applied Suicide Intervention  
Skills Training (ASIST)**  
Jeanine Sparks  
Susan Steele  
Anchorage, AK  
Cost – \$210 (space is limited)

##### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

**7:30 AM**

**REGISTRATION**

##### HALF-DAY WORKSHOPS

Cost – \$70 for AM or PM sessions, \$110 for AM and PM

**8:00 AM – 12:00 PM**  
(BLS/ALS Track)

**Advanced Airway Lab**  
Brian Reiselbara, MICP  
Kotzebue, AK

(BLS/ALS Track)

**\*Parasitology 101**  
Bernd Jilly, PhD  
Anchorage, AK  
\*Class is held at the Alaska  
Public Health Lab  
Space is limited

(BLS/ALS Track)

**Point of Intervention**  
Tom Oxnam  
Anchorage, AK

(Instructor Track)

**Being An Effective Teacher**  
Fidel Garcia, EMT-P  
Grand Junction, CO

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH**

**1:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**\*Parasitology 101 (REPEAT)**  
Bernd Jilly, PhD  
\*Class is held at the Alaska  
Public Health Lab  
Space is limited

**1:30 PM - 5:00 PM**  
(BLS/ALS Track)

**Integration of Capnography**  
Robert Vroman, EMT-P  
Lakewood, CO

(BLS/ALS Track)

**Advanced Airway Lab (REPEAT)**  
Brian Reiselbara, MICP  
Kotzebue, AK

(Instructor Track)

**Bioterrorism Curriculum –  
(Train-The-Trainer)**  
Brian Webb, MICP  
Anchorage, AK

**6:00 PM**

**Welcoming Reception**  
Hilton Anchorage Hotel

#### CLINICAL TRACK

**8:30 AM – 10:00 AM**

**Non-traditional Role in  
Disaster Operations**  
Patti Paris, MD  
Anchorage, AK

**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Terrorism: A Risk Assessment  
and Preparedness Approach**  
Ronald Pirralo, MD  
Milwaukee, WI

**12:00 PM – 1:30 PM**

**LUNCH**

**1:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

**The Task of Integrating  
Science, Evidence, Needs and  
Expectations: The EMS  
Medical Director's Role**  
Ronald Pirralo, MD  
Milwaukee, WI

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Pandemic Flu**  
Jay Butler, MD  
Anchorage, AK

**6:00 PM**

**Welcoming Reception**  
Hilton Anchorage Hotel

\*Please note location and time.

**31st Annual EMS Symposium****FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10**

<b>7:30 AM – 9:00 AM</b>	<b>REGISTRATION</b>
<b>9:00 AM – 10:00 AM</b>	<b>Opening Session</b> Kathy McLeron, EMS Unit Manager Section of Injury Prevention & EMS
<b>10:00 AM – 10:30 AM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>
<b>10:30 AM – 12:00 PM</b>	<b>General Session</b> <b>The South Milwaukee Diet: A Lean Approach to Resuscitation, Back to Basics</b> Ronald Pirrallo, MD Milwaukee, WI
<b>12:00 PM – 1:30 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH</b> <b>Safe Kids' Luncheon</b> Top of the World Hilton Anchorage  <b>EMS Instructors' Luncheon</b> Sponsored by Alaska Regional Hospital
<b>1:30 PM – 3:00 PM</b> (BLS/ALS Track)	<b>I Swear to Tell the Truth, the Whole Truth, and Nothing But the Truth</b> Robert Vroman, EMT-P Lakewood, CO
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Taking the "E" out of EMS</b> Tim Hillier Saskatoon, SK Canada
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>New Technology in EMS</b> David Allen, CCEMT-P Fairbanks, AK
(ALS Track)	<b>Infarct, Injury or Ischemia, 12-Lead Interpretations Made Simple, PART-I</b> Fidel Garcia, EMT-P Grand Junction, CO
(Management Track)	<b>TBA</b> Terry Marquart Anchorage, AK
(Injury Prevention Track)	<b>Get In the Game</b> TBA
<b>3:00 PM – 3:30 PM</b>	<b>BREAK</b>

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**  
(BLS Track)**Pandemic Flu**  
Mike Branum, RN, MICP  
Juneau, AK

(BLS/ALS Track)

**The Death of Peanut Butter in America**  
Robert Vroman  
Lakewood, CO

(BLS/ALS Track)

**TBA**  
BJ Coopes, MD  
Anchorage, AK  
Brian Reiselbara, MICP  
Kotzebue, AK

(ALS Track)

**Infarct, Injury or Ischemia, 12-Lead Interpretations Made Simple, PART-II**  
Fidel Garcia, EMT-P  
Grand Junction, CO

(Instructor Track)

**Relentless Pursuit of Excellence**  
Tim Hillier  
Saskatoon, SK Canada

(Injury Prevention Track)

**I Only Feel When I Hurt**  
Jeanine Sparks  
Anchorage, AK**CLINICAL TRACK****8:30 AM - 10:00 AM****Stabilization of the Pediatric Trauma Patient**  
Ian Neilson, MD  
Anchorage, AK**10:00 AM - 10:30 AM****BREAK****10:30 AM - 12:00 PM****General Session**  
**The South Milwaukee Diet: A Lean Approach to Resuscitation, Back to Basics**  
Ronald Pirrallo, MD  
Milwaukee, WI**12:00 PM - 1:30 PM****LUNCH****1:30 PM - 3:00 PM****Endocrine Emergencies**  
Molly Southworth, MD  
Anchorage, AK**3:00 PM - 3:30 PM****BREAK****3:30 PM - 5:00 PM****Difficult Pediatric Airways**  
Robert Smith  
Anchorage, AK



# 31st Annual EMS Symposium

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM (BLS/ALS Track)	<b>It's a Little Known Fact</b> Tim Hillier Saskatoon, SK Canada
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>What's New in EMS, Fact or Myth</b> Brian Reiselbara, NREMT-P Kotzebue, AK
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>What's in the Paper Sack: A Review of Commonly Prescribed Medications</b> Mike Braunum, RN, MICP Juneau, AK
(Management Track)	<b>EMS Data System</b> Don Rice, MD Lincoln, NE
(Injury Prevention Track)	<b>Baby It's Cold Outside: Frostbite and Hypothermia – School-based Curriculum</b> Dr. James O'Malley and Tim O'Malley Anchorage, AK
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>BREAK</b>
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM (BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Service Begins with You</b> Tom Hillier Saskatoon, SK Canada
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Multiple Trauma Patients</b> Brian Carriere, RN, EMT-P Palmer, AK
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Meth Labs for the First Responder, "What You Don't Know CAN Kill You"</b> Aaron Turnage Kenai, AK
(BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Hip and Pelvic Injuries</b> Kathy McLeron, PA-C, MICP Juneau, AK
(Injury Prevention Track)	<b>Driving with Miss Daisy</b> TBA

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	<b>Alaska Air Ambulance Association Meeting</b>
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM (BLS/ALS Track)	<b>Meth Labs</b> Rita Huss, RN Palmer, AK
1:30 PM	<b>Skills Competition</b>
7:15 PM	<b>No Host Cocktails</b>
8:00 PM	<b>EMS Awards Banquet</b>
<b>CLINICAL TRACK</b>	
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>TBA</b>
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	<b>BREAK</b>
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Pediatric Trauma</b> Debbie Lerner, MD Anchorage, AK
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>TBA</b>
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Medical Directors' Luncheon and Meeting</b>
7:15 PM	<b>No Host Cocktails</b>
8:00 PM	<b>EMS Awards Banquet</b>





## New Leadership and Staff Changes at Injury Prevention and EMS (IPEMS)

We are very pleased to announce that Timothy K. Bundy has accepted the position as the new Section Chief for Injury Prevention and EMS. Tim returns to Alaska after working for the US Department of State in Washington, DC. Tim and his wife, Penny, have lived in Alaska for approximately 25 years while Tim worked for a variety of employers including the Alaska Department of Labor, University of Alaska, Kenai Peninsula Borough, and several private sector companies.

We were sad to say good-bye to Martha Moore, the Alaska Trauma Registry Manager. Martha has been with IPEMS for 16 years and was with the Alaska Trauma Registry from its birth in 1990. Martha initially retired to have more time to pursue personal activities but will return to IPEMS as a long-term non-permanent employee.

We would like to welcome our newest administrative staff members. Bryan Zepp is the Administrative Clerk for IPEMS; this is his first job with the State. He is doing a great job and his enthusiasm is a wonderful addition to our office. Tracy Solomon has joined our staff as a non-permanent Administrative Clerk primarily to work with EMS certification. Tracy has quickly learned the duties of the office and is fitting in with the EMS Unit staff very well.

We are pleased to announce that Zoann Murphy accepted the position as Certification Specialist, and is now devoting all of her work activities towards certification of EMS providers. We are working closely with the Business Applications section of the Information Technology Unit to help reengineer the EMS certification software, and hope to be able to offer a more stable web-based interface for reviewing certification status and exam scores.

Maria Bailey, who has been working with our Injury Prevention Section for the past six years, has taken over the Alaska Poison Control Program. Maria will continue to work with the Alaska Kids Don't Float and Be Safe, Be Seen programs.



The new staff at IPEMS from left to right: Bryan Zepp, Tim Bundy and Tracy Solomon.

## Warbelow's Air Ambulance goes for the "Gold"

Warbelow's Air Ambulance is scheduled for a Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS) audit, August 2006. This audit is to evaluate the program's compliance with nationally established medical transport standards that deal with issues of patient care and safety in the transport environment. CAMTS accreditation is considered the "gold standard" of air medical transport.

## Pandemic Flu and Avian Flu

Two big topics of discussion this year are Pandemic Flu and Avian Flu. So, what is pandemic flu? It is a global influenza disease outbreak that occurs when there is little or no immunity in the population. The disease begins to cause serious illness and spreads easily from person-to-person. A pandemic is characterized by rapid worldwide spread, overloaded health care systems, inadequate medical supplies, and economic and social disruption. There were three such pandemic flu outbreaks in the 20th century; 1918-1919 – "Spanish Flu," 1956-1958 – "Asian Flu," and 1968-1969 – "Hong Kong Flu." We can not predict when the next pandemic flu may strike, but efforts are underway to prepare so that the impact will be minimized.

So, what is Avian Flu and how is it different from Pandemic Flu? Avian Influenza or "bird flu" is caused by viruses that occur naturally and commonly among domestic poultry and some wild birds, especially waterfowl and shorebirds. Only in rare instances are these viruses passed to other animals and humans. This has occurred sporadically in several parts of the world in recent years and monitoring is ongoing for consistent bird-to-human and human-to-human transmission. The Asian strain of the H5N1 virus is being closely monitored this year. It is a pandemic for birds but not for people. This said; the next pandemic flu may be caused by an avian flu but not exclusively. EMS Unit staff members have been traveling around the state this summer to discuss how communities can slow down or minimize a pandemic through infection control techniques and stockpiling medical and household supplies.

The EMS Symposium will have a session for the clinical track and the pre-hospital track on Pandemic Flu planning. Check the schedule for more information on times and locations. For more information on Avian and Pandemic Flu, go to [AvianFlu.alaska.gov](http://AvianFlu.alaska.gov) or [PandemicFlu.alaska.gov](http://PandemicFlu.alaska.gov).



## Kids Don't Float Wins Award

The National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, headquartered in Hayward, WI, recognized Alaska's "Kids Don't Float" program in February 2006 with an award for outstanding achievement.

Alaska's Kids Don't Float program is a statewide effort aimed at reducing the incidence of child drowning. It was developed in 1996 by community members in Homer through a state grant. When the initial grant funding ended, the section of Community Health and Emergency Medical Services (now known as Injury Prevention and EMS) within the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), adopted the program statewide as a best practice for drowning prevention.

Currently Kids Don't Float is a collaboration between the DHSS, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and the United States Coast Guard.

The program consists of two components: a personal flotation loaner program, which allows individuals to borrow a properly fitting lifejacket (personal flotation device- PFD). After use, they return the life jacket to the loaner board, which is maintained by individuals or community groups.

The other component is a peer education program, which trains high school students to teach water safety to elementary students. Trained professionals teach peer educators all aspects of water safety, personal flotation device use and fitting, the effects of cold water exposure, and methods of instruction.

In the 10 years of the program, Kids Don't Float loaner stations have grown to more than 400 sites statewide, with 12 documented lives saved.



**Maria Bailey** pictured at the Twin Lakes "Kids Don't Float" board. Maria works with State Injury Prevention and EMS in Juneau.

## Southcentral Foundation's Wellness Camp

Southcentral Foundation held their Wellness Camps (4 – one week programs) in July in Anchorage. The camps focus on injury prevention and wellness for youths. Several of the Anchorage Injury Prevention and EMS staff assisted with the camps sharing with the children information on bike and helmet safety. This included going over the parts of the bicycle and watching a "Bill Nye the Science Guy" video on bicycles. The program ended with a discussion on helmets and proper fitting and each child went home with a new, safe-fitting helmet.

## Mark your calendars!

The First Annual Stroke Symposium will be held September 25, 2006 in Anchorage at Alaska Regional Hospital from 8AM to 1PM. This symposium is the culmination of the stroke task force's work to provide a forum to learn about the latest technology in treating strokes and how Alaska can adapt these proven techniques to reduce the burden of stroke in our state. The key note speaker, Dr. David Hess, of the Medical College of Georgia will speak about the REACH project which connects rural Georgia residents to a neurologist and neurosurgeon to evaluate their symptoms in the emergency room using a web based correspondence, real time video, and CT. We are very excited to see a demonstration of this project at the symposium and explore this telestroke program's potential application in Alaska. We are also thrilled to have three additional physicians speak on stroke in Alaska, current interventions in neuroradiology and the ANMC stroke registry. Following the stroke symposium, the stroke task force will meet.

The Division of Public Health, Section of Chronic Disease, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention program, formed a state task force in February 2006. This task force is composed of EMS providers, nurses, neurologists, emergency room physicians, Alaska Heart Association, AARP, and long term care providers. The task force has been working on acute care treatment protocols, and learning about the issues facing emergency room physicians and neurologists in Alaska. Next, the task force will shift the focus to prehospital care in Alaska.

If you have any questions about the symposium or Stroke Task Force, please call Justine Muench at 465-8234 or email at [justine\\_muench@health.state.ak.us](mailto:justine_muench@health.state.ak.us)

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